

FISCAL NOTE

SB 3118 - HB 3428

March 11, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Provides, relative to watercraft engines:

- no person shall operate or give permission for the operation of any vessel on the waters of Tennessee unless the vessel is numbered, nor any vessel propelled by a combustion engine on the waters of Tennessee unless such combustion engine is numbered.
- every vessel and combustion engine, required to be numbered, shall file an application for a number with the executive director of Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.
- the application be signed by the owner or owners, of the vessel or combustion engine and shall be accompanied by the fee.
- the TWRA shall issue the applicant a certificate containing the identification number issued to the vessel or combustion engine and any additional information the TWRA may regulate or prescribe.
- the certificate shall be pocket-sized and available for inspection when the vessel is in operation.
- the owner shall paint on or attach the identification number to the combustion engine or on each side of the bow of the vessel displaying it in the manner required by the regulations, and maintaining it in legible condition.
- the TWRA is allowed to issue certificates for periods of up to three years. The fee is as follows: one-year certificate, \$4.00; two-year certificate, \$7.00; three year certificate, \$10.00. Currently, certificates are valid for one year from date of issue.
- the TWRA is required to promulgate rules to govern reporting the destruction, sale, or transfer of ownership of numbered vessel internal combustion engines.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenues:

Exceeds \$1,200,000/Wildlife Resources Fund

Exceeds \$450,000 - Second Year/Wildlife Resources Fund

Exceeds -\$300,000 - Third Year/Wildlife Resources Fund

Increase State Expenditures - \$270,000/Wildlife Resources Fund

Estimate assumes

- there are 242,251 boat registered with TWRA; if one-half of the boat owners register their boat motors for three years at \$10, there would be an increase in state revenues of \$1,211,260.
- if they choose to register their boat motor for one year at \$4.00, there would be an increase in state revenues over \$450,000.
- if they choose to register their boat motors for two years at \$7.00, then state revenues would increase by over \$300,000.
- an increase in expenditures for personnel and related expenses to administer the provisions of the bill.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director